## **AMENDMENTS**

## In the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

- 1-7. (Canceled)
- 8. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition comprising a) a compound with an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group a and b) an acid generator which generates acid by irradiation with radiation, wherein the acid labile group a has an alkali-soluble group or alternatively the acid labile group a has an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group b.
- 9. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 8 wherein the acid labile group a with an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group a has at least one phenolic hydroxyl group, or alternatively a phenolic hydroxyl group further protected with acid labile group b.
- 10. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 8 wherein the acid labile group a in the compound with an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group a has at least one carboxyl group or alternatively a carboxyl group further protected with acid labile group b.
- 11. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 8 wherein the labile group a in the compound with an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group a is represented by general formula (4):

 $(R^{13} \text{ to } R^{15} \text{ are each independently an alkyl group, a substituted alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group, a group containing an alkali-soluble group, or a group containing an alkali-soluble group protected by acid labile group <math>b$ , and at least one is a group containing an alkali-soluble group, or a group containing an alkali-soluble group protected by

acid labile group b,  $R^{13}$  to  $R^{15}$  may be the same or different).

12. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 11 wherein at least one of R<sup>13</sup> to R<sup>15</sup> in general formula (4) is a group represented by general formula (5) or (6):

(A represents an alkylene group with 1 to 4 carbons, an arylene group with 6 to 10 carbons or a single bond, B represents an alkylene group with 1 to 6 carbons, an arylene group with 6 to 10 carbons, an alkylenearylene group with 7 to 12 carbons or a single bond,  $R^{16}$  to  $R^{19}$  each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbons, Y represents an acid labile group b or a hydrogen atom, and m is 1 to 3).

13. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 11 wherein at least one of R<sup>13</sup> to R<sup>15</sup> in general formula (4) is a group represented by general formula (7):

( $R^{20}$  and  $R^{21}$  each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbons, Y represents an acid labile group b or a hydrogen atom, and m is 1 to 3).

14. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 11 wherein at least one of  $R^{13}$  to  $R^{15}$  of general formula (4) is of structure represented by general formula (8):

 $(R^{22}$  and  $R^{23}$  represent a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbons, Y represents an acid labile group b or a hydrogen atom).

- 15. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 8 wherein the compound with an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group a is a polymer of weight average molecular weight from 5,000 to 50,000.
- 16. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 8 wherein the compound with an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group a is a polymer containing structural units represented by general formula (9):

$$-CH_2-C--- (9)$$

(R<sup>24</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbons, a cyano group or a halogen, Z is a group represented by general formula (1), (2) or (4)).

17. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 8 wherein the compound with an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group a is a polymer containing structural units represented by general formula (10):

$$-CH_2-C$$
OX
$$(10)$$

(R<sup>23</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbons, a cyano group or a halogen,

X is an acid labile group represented by general formula (2) or (4)).

18. (previously presented) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 16 wherein R<sup>24</sup> is a cyano group or a halogen.

19-20. (Canceled)

Please add the following new claims 21-23:

- 21. (new) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition comprising a positive-working radiation-sensitive composition containing a) a compound with an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group a and b) an acid generator which generates acid by irradiation with radiation, and any of the following conditions a1) to a3) are satisfied:
- a1) The alkali-soluble group is a carboxyl group and the acid labile group is represented by general formula (1)

(R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are aromatic rings, and R<sup>3</sup> represents an alkyl group, a substituted alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group or an aromatic ring; and R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>3</sup> may be the same or different)

a2) The acid labile group is represented by general formula (2)

 $(R^4 \text{ to } R^6 \text{ are each an alkyl group, a substituted alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group or an aromatic ring, and at least one of <math>R^4 \text{ to } R^6 \text{ is an aromatic ring with an electron-donating group; and } R^4 \text{ to } R^6 \text{ may be the same or different)}$ 

a3) The acid labile group a has an alkali-soluble group or alternatively the acid labile group a

has an alkali-soluble group protected by an acid labile group b.

and wherein the compound meeting any of conditions al) to a3) is a polymer containing structural units represented by general formula (9):

$$-CH_2-C-C-(9)$$

(R<sup>24</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbons, a cyano group or a halogen, Z is a group represented by general formula (1), (2) or (4))

22. (new) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to claim 21 wherein condition a2) or a3) is satisfied and wherein the compound meeting condition a2) or a3) is a polymer containing structural units represented by general formula (10):

$$-CH_2-C$$

$$OX$$

(R<sup>23</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group with 1 to 4 carbons, a cyano group or a halogen, X is an acid labile group represented by general formula (2) or (4).

23. (new) A positive-working radiation-sensitive composition according to Claim 21 wherein  $R^{24}$  is a cyano group or a halogen.